

SENATE BILL 2245
By Dixon

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, to authorize the issuance of "Proud To Be An American" new specialty earmarked license plates.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(7), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

() Proud To Be An American;

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 55-4-2__.

(a)

(1) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the State of Tennessee upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in §55-4-203, shall be issued a "Proud To Be An American" new specialty earmarked license plate for a motor vehicle authorized by §55-4-210(c).

(2) The dual purpose of the plates provided for in this section is to express the patriotism, spirit and resolve of Tennesseans in the wake of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, and to allow Tennesseans to voluntarily contribute to local school systems and local schools that are struggling to attain student performance standards mandated by state law.

(b) The new specialty earmarked plates provided for in this section shall be produced upon a background of an American flag and shall include the phrase "Proud To Be An American".

(c)

(1) The funds produced from the sale of such "Proud To Be An American" new specialty earmarked license plates shall be allocated in accordance with the provisions of §55-4-215.

(2) All funds allocated pursuant to §55-4-215(a)(1), shall be distributed to school systems and schools that have failed to attain the student performance standards mandated by Title 49, Chapter 1, Part 6, and have been placed on probation pursuant to §49-1-602. Such funds shall be distributed to such school systems and schools in accordance with a formula to be developed by the state board of education.

SECTION 3. Any funds received pursuant to this act shall not result in any reduction in appropriations otherwise made to local school systems or local schools.

SECTION 4. The state board of education is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations to establish a formula for the equitable distribution of funds to school systems and schools from the funds produced from the sale of the new specialty earmarked license plates authorized by this act. All such rules and regulations shall be promulgated in accordance with the provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 5.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.